## UNITED STATES BANKRUPTCY COURT

Eastern District of California

Honorable Michael S. McManus Bankruptcy Judge Sacramento, California

November 25, 2013 at 1:30 p.m.

THIS CALENDAR IS DIVIDED INTO TWO PARTS. THEREFORE, TO FIND ALL MOTIONS AND OBJECTIONS SET FOR HEARING IN A PARTICULAR CASE, YOU MAY HAVE TO LOOK IN BOTH PARTS OF THE CALENDAR. WITHIN EACH PART, CASES ARE ARRANGED BY THE LAST TWO DIGITS OF THE CASE NUMBER.

THE COURT FIRST WILL HEAR ITEMS 1 THROUGH 13. A TENTATIVE RULING FOLLOWS EACH OF THESE ITEMS. THE COURT MAY AMEND OR CHANGE A TENTATIVE RULING BASED ON THE PARTIES' ORAL ARGUMENT. IF <u>ALL</u> PARTIES AGREE TO A TENTATIVE RULING, THERE IS NO NEED TO APPEAR FOR ARGUMENT. HOWEVER, IT IS INCUMBENT ON EACH PARTY TO ASCERTAIN WHETHER ALL OTHER PARTIES WILL ACCEPT A RULING AND FOREGO ORAL ARGUMENT. IF A PARTY APPEARS, THE HEARING WILL PROCEED WHETHER OR NOT ALL PARTIES ARE PRESENT. AT THE CONCLUSION OF THE HEARING, THE COURT WILL ANNOUNCE ITS DISPOSITION OF THE ITEM AND IT MAY DIRECT THAT THE TENTATIVE RULING, AS ORIGINALLY WRITTEN OR AS AMENDED BY THE COURT, BE APPENDED TO THE MINUTES OF THE HEARING AS THE COURT'S FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW.

IF A MOTION OR AN OBJECTION IS SET FOR HEARING PURSUANT TO LOCAL BANKRUPTCY RULE 3015-1(c), (d) [eff. May 1, 2012], GENERAL ORDER 05-03, ¶ 3(c), LOCAL BANKRUPTCY RULE 3007-1(c)(2)[eff. through April 30, 2012], OR LOCAL BANKRUPTCY RULE 9014-1(f)(2), RESPONDENTS WERE NOT REQUIRED TO FILE WRITTEN OPPOSITION TO THE RELIEF REQUESTED. RESPONDENTS MAY APPEAR AT THE HEARING AND RAISE OPPOSITION ORALLY. IF THAT OPPOSITION RAISES A POTENTIALLY MERITORIOUS DEFENSE OR ISSUE, THE COURT WILL GIVE THE RESPONDENT AN OPPORTUNITY TO FILE WRITTEN OPPOSITION AND SET A FINAL HEARING UNLESS THERE IS NO NEED TO DEVELOP THE WRITTEN RECORD FURTHER. IF THE COURT SETS A FINAL HEARING, UNLESS THE PARTIES REQUEST A DIFFERENT SCHEDULE THAT IS APPROVED BY THE COURT, THE FINAL HEARING WILL TAKE PLACE ON DECEMBER 23, 2013 AT 1:30 P.M. OPPOSITION MUST BE FILED AND SERVED BY DECEMBER 9, 2013, AND ANY REPLY MUST BE FILED AND SERVED BY DECEMBER 16, 2013. THE MOVING/OBJECTING PARTY IS TO GIVE NOTICE OF THE DATE AND TIME OF THE CONTINUED HEARING DATE AND OF THESE DEADLINES.

THERE WILL BE NO HEARING ON THE ITEMS IN THE SECOND PART OF THE CALENDAR, ITEMS 14 THROUGH 28. INSTEAD, EACH OF THESE ITEMS HAS BEEN DISPOSED OF AS INDICATED IN THE FINAL RULING BELOW. THAT RULING WILL BE APPENDED TO THE MINUTES. THIS FINAL RULING MAY OR MAY NOT BE A FINAL ADJUDICATION ON THE MERITS; IF IT IS, IT INCLUDES THE COURT'S FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS. IF ALL PARTIES HAVE AGREED TO A CONTINUANCE OR HAVE RESOLVED THE MATTER BY STIPULATION, THEY MUST ADVISE THE COURTROOM DEPUTY CLERK PRIOR TO HEARING IN ORDER TO DETERMINE WHETHER THE COURT VACATE THE FINAL RULING IN FAVOR OF THE CONTINUANCE OR THE STIPULATED DISPOSITION.

IF THE COURT CONCLUDES THAT FED. R. BANKR. P. 9014(d) REQUIRES AN EVIDENTIARY HEARING, UNLESS OTHERWISE ORDERED, IT WILL BE SET ON DECEMBER 3, 2013, AT 2:30 P.M.

## Matters to be Called for Argument

1. 09-20504-A-13 ALEX/THERESA ZOTOW WW-5

MOTION TO SELL 10-29-13 [143]

- □ Telephone Appearance
- □ Trustee Agrees with Ruling

Tentative Ruling: Because less than 28 days' notice of the hearing was given by the debtor, this motion is deemed brought pursuant to Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(2). Consequently, the creditors, the trustee, the U.S. Trustee, and any other parties in interest were not required to file a written response or opposition to the motion. If any of these potential respondents appear at the hearing and offers opposition to the motion, the court will set a briefing schedule and a final hearing unless there is no need to develop the record further. If no opposition is offered at the hearing, the court will take up the merits of the motion. Below is the court's tentative ruling, rendered on the assumption that there will be no opposition to the motion. Obviously, if there is opposition, the court may reconsider this tentative ruling.

The motion to sell real property will be granted on the condition that the sale proceeds are used to pay all liens of record in full, or in such amounts as the lien holders may expressly agree, and in a manner consistent with the plan. Insofar as surplus sale proceeds are available, they shall be paid over to the trustee to the extent required by the confirmed plan with such additional amounts as volunteered by the debtor. The turnover of the surplus sale proceeds is voluntary. Burgie v. McDonald (In re Burgie), 239 B.R. 406, 409-410 (B.A.P. 9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1999) ("The proceeds of the sale of a debtor's real estate in a chapter 13 case never become disposable income for the purposes of chapter 13. This result applies in a chapter 13 case whether or not the property is exempt from execution. . . Postpetition disposable income does not include prepetition property or its proceeds.").

Absent either payment in full (i.e., a 100% dividend) of all filed proofs of claim or the approval of a modified plan that permits the plan to be completed without payment in full, the plan shall not be deemed completed by payment of the sale proceeds to the trustee.

2. 12-27029-A-13 THALIA SINGLETON LDD-7

MOTION TO MODIFY PLAN 9-25-13 [116]

- □ Telephone Appearance
- □ Trustee Agrees with Ruling

**Tentative Ruling:** The motion will be granted and the objection will be overruled.

First, the debtor may modify a plan to provide for a default in the making of post-petition contract installments due on a home loan. The bankruptcy code anticipates that a debtor will encounter such difficulty and provides the means for overcoming the difficulty. For instance, it permits liberal modifications of plans both before and after confirmation of a plan. 11 U.S.C. §§ 1323 and 1329. It permits a plan to cure "any" default. 11 U.S.C. § 1322(b)(3). Most courts, including this court, interpret this to allow post-petition defaults. See In re Bellinger, 179 B.R. 220 (Bankr. D. Idaho 1995); Green Tree Acceptance v. Hoggle (In re Hoggle), 12 F.3d 1008, 1010-11 (11th Cir. 1994); Mendoza v.

Temple Inland Mortgage (In re Mendoza), 111 F.3d 1264, 1268 (5th Cir. 1997).

Second, the motion explains how the debtor will meet the additional financial burden imposed by the cure of the post-petition arrears. The debtor has meet the burden of proving the plan's feasibility. See 11 U.S.C.  $\S$  1325(a)(6).

Third, there is nothing in the proposed plan that modifies the objecting creditor's claim prospectively. It provides for the cure of the arrears and the maintenance of the contract installments. This satisfies 11 U.S.C.  $\S$  1322(b)(2), (b)(5).

3. 08-23136-A-13 KENNETH/MELODY KRAMER RLC-1

MOTION FOR HARDSHIP DISCHARGE 11-4-13 [86]

- □ Telephone Appearance
- ☐ Trustee Agrees with Ruling

Tentative Ruling: Because less than 28 days' notice of the hearing was given by the debtor, this motion is deemed brought pursuant to Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(2). Consequently, the creditors, the trustee, the U.S. Trustee, and any other parties in interest were not required to file a written response or opposition to the motion. If any of these potential respondents appear at the hearing and offers opposition to the motion, the court will set a briefing schedule and a final hearing unless there is no need to develop the record further. If no opposition is offered at the hearing, the court will take up the merits of the motion. Below is the court's tentative ruling, rendered on the assumption that there will be no opposition to the motion. Obviously, if there is opposition, the court may reconsider this tentative ruling.

To the extent this motion seeks a hardship discharge pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 1328(b), the motion will be denied. 11 U.S.C. § 1328(b) permits a discharge "at any time after confirmation of the plan" if three cumulative conditions are met: 1) the debtor's failure to complete payments under the plan is due to circumstances "for which the debtor should not justly be held accountable"; 2) the debtor has satisfied the best interests of creditors test of 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(4); and 3) modification of the plan is not practicable.

Here, the motion recites that the debtor has made all plan payments and that the plan will pay the dividends promised to all creditors. Hence, there is no need for a hardship discharge. The debtor will receive the ususal chapter 13 discharge.

The motion for entry of a chapter 13 discharge will be granted.

First, while the trustee has not filed a final report and creditors have not yet had their opportunity to object to it, this motion demonstrates that the debtors have made the payments required by the plan and that the trustee has made the payments to creditors required by the plan. The requirement imposed by 11 U.S.C. § 1328(a) that the debtors receive a discharge only after completion of all payments under the plan has been satisfied. See In re Avery, 272 B.R. 718 (Bankr. E.D. Cal. 2002); In re Estrada, 322 B.R. 149 (Bankr. E.D. Cal. 2005).

Second, the debtors have filed their certificate in connection with this motion that they are not required by a judicial or administrative order, or by statute, to pay a domestic support obligation. See 11 U.S.C.  $\S$  1328(a). No objection has been filed to that certificate and the time to file an objection

has expired.

Third, the debtors have filed certificates that they have completed their post-petition instructional course concerning personal financial management as described in 11 U.S.C.  $\S$  111. This satisfies 11 U.S.C.  $\S$  1328(g)(1).

Fourth, the debtors have given all creditors notice that 11 U.S.C.  $\S$  522(q)(1) is not applicable to them, and that there is no pending proceeding in which the debtors, or either of them, may be found guilty of a felony of the kind described in section 522(q)(1)(A) or liable for a debt of the kind specified in section 522(q)(1)(B). No creditor has objected to this notice. This satisfies the requirements of 11 U.S.C.  $\S$  1328(h).

Finally, the debtors have not received a discharge in a chapter 7, 11, or 12 case during the four years preceding the filing of this case nor have they received a chapter 13 discharge in the two years preceding the filing of this case. See 11 U.S.C.  $\S$  1328(f).

Therefore, no earlier than 10 days after the hearing on this motion, the clerk shall enter the debtors' discharge.

4. 13-32945-A-13 CARISSA BUCHMEIER

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE 11-8-13 [16]

- □ Telephone Appearance
- □ Trustee Agrees with Ruling

Tentative Ruling: The case will be dismissed.

The debtor was given permission to pay the filing fee in installments pursuant to Fed. R. Bankr. P. 1006(b). The installment in the amount of \$70 due on November 4 was not paid. This is cause for dismissal. See 11 U.S.C. \$ 1307(c)(2).

5. 13-32148-A-13 ANTHONY/DEANNA LOGAN JPJ-1

OBJECTION TO CONFIRMATION OF PLAN AND MOTION TO DISMISS CASE 11-7-13 [20]

- □ Telephone Appearance
- □ Trustee Agrees with Ruling

Tentative Ruling: Because this hearing on an objection to the confirmation of the proposed chapter 13 plan and a motion to dismiss the case was set pursuant to the procedure required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 3015-1(c)(4), the debtor was not required to file a written response. If no opposition is offered at the hearing, the court will take up the merits of the objection. Below is the court's tentative ruling, rendered on the assumption that there will be no opposition. Obviously, if there is opposition, the court may reconsider this tentative ruling.

The objection will be sustained and the motion to dismiss the case will be conditionally denied.

First, the plan is not feasible as required by 11 U.S.C. \$ 1325(a)(6) because the monthly plan payment required in the first 6 months of the plan, \$190, is less than the \$425.54 in dividends and expenses the plan requires the trustee

to pay each month.

Second, the debtor has failed to make \$190 of payments required by the plan. This has resulted in delay that is prejudicial to creditors and suggests that the plan is not feasible. See 11 U.S.C.  $\S\S$  1307(c)(1) & (c)(4), 1325(a)(6).

Third, counsel for the debtor has opted to receive fees pursuant to Local Bankruptcy Rule 2016-1 rather than by making a motion in accordance with 11 U.S.C. §§ 329, 330 and Fed. R. Bankr. P. 2002, 2016, 2017. However, counsel has not complied with Rule 2016-1 by filing the rights and responsibilities agreement. The abbreviated procedure for approval of the fees permitted by Local Bankruptcy Rule 2016-1 is not applicable. Therefore, the provision in the proposed plan requiring the trustee to pay the fees without counsel first making a motion in accordance with 11 U.S.C. §§ 329, 330 and Fed. R. Bankr. P. 2002, 2016, 2017, permits payment of fees without the required court approval. This violates sections 329 and 330.

Because the plan proposed by the debtor is not confirmable, the debtor will be given a further opportunity to confirm a plan. But, if the debtor is unable to confirm a plan within a reasonable period of time, the court concludes that the prejudice to creditors will be prejudicial and that there will then be cause for dismissal. If the debtor has not confirmed a plan within 75 days, the case will be dismissed on the trustee's ex parte application.

6. 13-32554-A-13 AUDREY LYTLE JPJ-1

OBJECTION TO
CONFIRMATION OF PLAN AND MOTION TO
DISMISS CASE
11-7-13 [24]

- □ Telephone Appearance
- □ Trustee Agrees with Ruling

Tentative Ruling: Because this hearing on an objection to the confirmation of the proposed chapter 13 plan and a motion to dismiss the case was set pursuant to the procedure required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 3015-1(c)(4), the debtor was not required to file a written response. If no opposition is offered at the hearing, the court will take up the merits of the objection. Below is the court's tentative ruling, rendered on the assumption that there will be no opposition. Obviously, if there is opposition, the court may reconsider this tentative ruling.

The objection will be sustained and the motion to dismiss the case will be conditionally denied.

First, the debtor has failed to give the trustee a copy of an appraisal obtained by the debtor on the debtor's Sacramento real property. This is a breach of the duties imposed by 11 U.S.C.  $\S$  521(a)(3) & (a)(4). To attempt to confirm a plan while withholding relevant financial information from the trustee is bad faith. See 11 U.S.C.  $\S$  1325(a)(3).

Second, the plan's feasibility depends on the debtor successfully prosecuting a motion to value the collateral of Mavi Gok, LLC, in order to strip down or strip off its secured claim from its collateral. No such motion has been filed, served, and granted. Absent a successful motion the debtor cannot establish that the plan will pay secured claims in full as required by 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(5)(B) or that the plan is feasible as required by 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(6). Local Bankruptcy Rule 3015-1(j) provides: "If a proposed plan will reduce or eliminate a secured claim based on the value of its collateral or the

avoidability of a lien pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 522(f), the debtor must file, serve, and set for hearing a valuation motion and/or a lien avoidance motion. The hearing must be concluded before or in conjunction with the confirmation of the plan. If a motion is not filed, or it is unsuccessful, the Court may deny confirmation of the plan."

Third, 11 U.S.C. § 521(e)(2)(B) & (C) requires the court to dismiss a petition if an individual chapter 7 or 13 debtor fails to provide to the case trustee a copy of the debtor's federal income tax return for the most recent tax year ending before the filing of the petition. This return must be produced seven days prior to the date first set for the meeting of creditors. The failure to provide the return to the trustee justifies dismissal and denial of confirmation. In addition to the requirement of section 521(e)(2) that the petition be dismissed, an uncodified provision of the Bankruptcy Abuse Prevention and Consumer Protection Act of 2005 found at section 1228(a) of BAPCPA provides that in chapter 11 and 13 cases the court shall not confirm a plan of an individual debtor unless requested tax documents have been turned over. This has not been done.

Fourth, by failing disclose on the petition all names by which the debtor is known, the debtor has failed to comply with 11 U.S.C.  $\S$  521(e)(2)(A)(I).

Because the plan proposed by the debtor is not confirmable, the debtor will be given a further opportunity to confirm a plan. But, if the debtor is unable to confirm a plan within a reasonable period of time, the court concludes that the prejudice to creditors will be prejudicial and that there will then be cause for dismissal. If the debtor has not confirmed a plan within 75 days, the case will be dismissed on the trustee's ex parte application.

7. 13-32554-A-13 AUDREY LYTLE

OBJECTION TO CONFIRMATION OF PLAN 10-25-13 [14]

MAVI GOK LLC VS.

- □ Telephone Appearance
- □ Trustee Agrees with Ruling

Tentative Ruling: Because this hearing on an objection to the confirmation of the proposed chapter 13 plan was set pursuant to the procedure required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 3015-1(c)(4), the debtor was not required to file a written response. If no opposition is offered at the hearing, the court will take up the merits of the objection. Below is the court's tentative ruling, rendered on the assumption that there will be no opposition. Obviously, if there is opposition, the court may reconsider this tentative ruling.

The objection will be sustained to the extent the court has sustained the trustee's objection. No other objection is reached by the court.

8. 13-32554-A-13 AUDREY LYTLE
PPR-1
DEUTSCHE BANK NATIONAL TRUST CO. VS.

OBJECTION TO CONFIRMATION OF PLAN 11-7-13 [21]

- □ Telephone Appearance
- □ Trustee Agrees with Ruling

**Tentative Ruling:** Because this hearing on an objection to the confirmation of the proposed chapter 13 plan was set pursuant to the procedure required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 3015-1(c)(4), the debtor was not required to file a written response. If no opposition is offered at the hearing, the court will

take up the merits of the objection. Below is the court's tentative ruling, rendered on the assumption that there will be no opposition. Obviously, if there is opposition, the court may reconsider this tentative ruling.

The objection will be sustained to the extent the court has sustained the trustee's objection. No other objection is reached by the court.

9. 13-32171-A-13 PAVEL KOZHAYEV JPJ-1

OBJECTION TO CONFIRMATION OF PLAN AND MOTION TO DISMISS CASE 11-7-13 [27]

- □ Telephone Appearance
- ☐ Trustee Agrees with Ruling

Tentative Ruling: Because this hearing on an objection to the confirmation of the proposed chapter 13 plan and a motion to dismiss the case was set pursuant to the procedure required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 3015-1(c)(4), the debtor was not required to file a written response. If no opposition is offered at the hearing, the court will take up the merits of the objection. Below is the court's tentative ruling, rendered on the assumption that there will be no opposition. Obviously, if there is opposition, the court may reconsider this tentative ruling.

The objection will be sustained and the motion to dismiss the case will be conditionally denied.

First, if requested by the U.S. Trustee or the chapter 13 trustee, a debtor must produce evidence of a social security number or a written statement that such documentation does not exist. <u>See</u> Fed. R. Bankr. P. 4002(b)(1)(B). In this case, the debtor has breached the foregoing duty by failing to provide evidence of the debtor's social security number. This is cause for dismissal.

Second, the plan proposes to retain a residence encumbered by claims referred to in Class 1. There are approximately \$130,000 of arrears on these claims. The plan fails to cure the arrears despite retaining the residence. This does not comply with 11 U.S.C. §§ 1322(b)(2), (b)(5), 1325(a)(5)(B).

Third, the debtor has failed to give the trustee financial records for a closely held business. This is a breach of the duties imposed by 11 U.S.C.  $\S$  521(a)(3) & (a)(4). To attempt to confirm a plan while withholding relevant financial information from the trustee is bad faith. See 11 U.S.C.  $\S$  1325(a)(3).

Fourth, to pay the dividends required by the plan and the rate proposed by it will take 603 months which exceeds the maximum 5-year duration permitted by 11 U.S.C.  $\S$  1322(d).

Fifth, the case and the plan have not been filed in good faith as required by 11 U.S.C.  $\S$  1325(a)(3), (9). The debtor has concealed prior bankruptcy petitions filed in the prior 8 years.

Sixth, the plan is not feasible as required by 11 U.S.C.  $\S$  1325(a)(6) because the monthly plan payment of \$100 is less than the \$1,021.28 in dividends and expenses the plan requires the trustee to pay each month.

Seventh, Local Bankruptcy Rule 3015-1(b)(6) provides: "<u>Documents Required by Trustee</u>. The debtor shall provide to the trustee, not later than the fourteen

(14) days after the filing of the petition, Form EDC 3-088, Domestic Support Obligation Checklist, or other written notice of the name and address of each person to whom the debtor owes a domestic support obligation together with the name and address of the relevant state child support enforcement agency (see 42 U.S.C. §§ 464 & 466), Form EDC 3-086, Class 1 Checklist, for each Class 1 claim, and Form EDC 3-087, Authorization to Release Information to Trustee Regarding Secured Claims Being Paid By The Trustee." Because the plan includes a class 1 claim, the debtor was required to provide the trustee with a Class 1 checklist. The debtor failed to do so.

Because the plan proposed by the debtor is not confirmable, the debtor will be given a further opportunity to confirm a plan. But, if the debtor is unable to confirm a plan within a reasonable period of time, the court concludes that the prejudice to creditors will be prejudicial and that there will then be cause for dismissal. If the debtor has not confirmed a plan within 75 days, the case will be dismissed on the trustee's ex parte application.

10. 13-32873-A-13 GREG WEATHERLY

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE 11-6-13 [24]

- □ Telephone Appearance
- □ Trustee Agrees with Ruling

Tentative Ruling: The case will be dismissed.

The debtor was given permission to pay the filing fee in installments pursuant to Fed. R. Bankr. P. 1006(b). The installment in the amount of \$70 due on November 1 was not paid. This is cause for dismissal. See 11 U.S.C.  $\S$  1307(c)(2).

11. 10-39382-A-13 GRACE KAU CAH-2

MOTION TO
DELAY DISCHARGE
10-25-13 [56]

- □ Telephone Appearance
- □ Trustee Agrees with Ruling

Tentative Ruling: The motion will be denied.

Even though the debtor has done all that is necessary to complete the plan and has filed the forms required by the Bankruptcy Code and this court's Local Bankruptcy Rules, the debtor asks the court to delay her discharge in order to refinance a long term debt secured by her home. Given that this case has been pending since 2010, given that a loan modification could have been accomplished (with the consent of the lender) by modifying the plan, and given that it is no longer possible to modify the plan because the debtor has made the last payment required by the confirmed plan, there is no cause to delay the discharge.

12. 13-30287-A-13 RODNEY/CHANDRA LAMBERT KO-2 VALLEY BANK VS.

MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM AUTOMATIC STAY 9-27-13 [26]

- □ Telephone Appearance
- □ Trustee Agrees with Ruling

**Tentative Ruling:** The motion is granted in part pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 362(d)(2) in order to permit the movant to conduct a foreclosure sale and to

obtain possession of the subject real property following the sale. All other relief is denied. The subject real property has a value of \$67,744 and is encumbered by a perfected deed of trust or mortgage in favor of the movant. That security interest secures a claim of \$69,271.77. The debtor has no equity in the property.

And, while this is chapter 13 reorganization, the debtor has not come forward with any convincing evidence that the property is necessary for a reorganization that is in prospect.

First, the plan proposed by the debtor erroneously assumes the movant's claim is long term secured claim. This means the debtor is proposing to maintain the monthly mortgage payment and cure any arrears, which are estimated at \$2,500. However, the loan matured on one year ago. As a result, the entire claim of \$69,271.77 must be paid. The plan does not proposed to do so. The plan cannot be confirmed.

Second, according to the plan and Schedules I and J as well as Form 22, the subject property is rental property but the debtor is deriving no income from it. Hence, not only is there no equity to realize for the benefit of unsecured creditors, there is no net rental income to benefit creditors.

The 14-day stay of Fed. R. Bankr. P. 4001(a)(3) will be waived.

Because the movant has not established that the value of its collateral exceeds the amount of its claim, the court awards no fees and costs. 11 U.S.C.  $\S$  506(b).

13. 13-32991-A-13 SUSAN VERA

ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE 11-8-13 [17]

- □ Telephone Appearance
- ☐ Trustee Agrees with Ruling

Tentative Ruling: The case will be dismissed.

The debtor was given permission to pay the filing fee in installments pursuant to Fed. R. Bankr. P. 1006(b). The installment in the amount of \$70 due on November 4 was not paid. This is cause for dismissal. See 11 U.S.C. \$ 1307(c)(2).

## FINAL RULINGS BEGIN HERE

14. 13-32201-A-13 BRYAN/CASSANDRA NOLL JPJ-1

OBJECTION TO
CONFIRMATION OF PLAN AND MOTION TO
DISMISS CASE
11-7-13 [32]

**Final Ruling:** The trustee has voluntarily dismissed the objection and the related dismissal motion.

15. 13-32715-A-13 ALBERT/GLENDA CARTER SAC-1

MOTION TO
VALUE COLLATERAL

VS. GREENPOINT MTG. FUNDING TRUST, ETC. 10-23-13 [15]

**Final Ruling:** This valuation motion has been set for hearing on the notice required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(1). The failure of the trustee and the respondent creditor to file written opposition at least 14 days prior to the hearing as required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(1)(ii) is considered as consent to the granting of the motion. Cf. Ghazali v. Moran, 46 F.3d 52, 53 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1995). Further, because the court will not materially alter the relief requested by the moving party, an actual hearing is unnecessary. See Boone v. Burk (In re Eliapo), 468 F.3d 592 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2006). Therefore, the defaults of the trustee and the respondent creditor are entered and the matter will be resolved without oral argument.

The motion will be granted.

The debtor seeks to value the debtor's residence at a fair market value of \$468,005 as of the date the petition was filed. It is encumbered by a first deed of trust held by Nationstar Mortgage. The first deed of trust secures a loan with a balance of approximately \$517,000 as of the petition date. Therefore, Greenpoint Mortgage Funding Trust 2007-HEI's claim secured by a junior deed of trust is completely under-collateralized. No portion of this claim will be allowed as a secured claim. See 11 U.S.C. § 506(a).

Any assertion that the respondent's claim cannot be modified because it is secured only by a security interest in real property that is the debtor's principal residence is disposed of by <u>In re Zimmer</u>, 313 F.3d 1220 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2002) and <u>In re Lam</u>, 211 B.R. 36 (B.A.P. 9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1997). <u>See also In re Bartee</u>, 212 F.3d 277 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2000); <u>In re Tanner</u>, 217 F.3d 1357 (11<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2000); <u>McDonald v. Master Fin., Inc. (In re McDonald)</u>, 205 F.3d 606, 611-13 (3<sup>rd</sup> Cir. 2000); and <u>Domestic Bank v. Mann (In re Mann)</u>, 249 B.R. 831, 840 (B.A.P. 1<sup>st</sup> Cir. 2000).

Because the claim is completely under-secured, no interest need be paid on the claim except to the extent otherwise required by 11 U.S.C. \$ 1325(a)(4). If the secured claim is \$0, because the value of the respondent's collateral is \$0, no interest need be paid pursuant to 11 U.S.C. \$ 1325(a)(5)(B)(ii).

Any argument that the plan, by valuing the respondent's security and providing the above treatment, violates  $\underline{\text{In re Hobdy}}$ , 130 B.R. 318 (B.A.P. 9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1991), will be overruled. The plan is not an objection to the respondent's proof of claim pursuant to Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3007 and 11 U.S.C. § 502. The plan makes provision for the treatment of the claim and all other claims, and a separate valuation motion has been filed and served as permitted by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3012 and 11 U.S.C. § 506(a). The plan was served by the trustee on all creditors, and the motion to value collateral was served by the debtor with a notice that the collateral for the respondent's claim would be valued. That

motion is supported by a declaration of the debtor as to the value of the real property. There is nothing about the process for considering the valuation motion which amounts to a denial of due process.

To the extent the respondent objects to valuation of its collateral in a contested matter rather than an adversary proceeding, the objection is overruled. Valuations pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 506(a) and Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3012 are contested matters and do not require the filing of an adversary proceeding. Further, even if considered in the nature of a claim objection, an adversary proceeding is not required. Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3007. It is only when such a motion or objection is joined with a request to determine the extent, validity or priority of a security interest, or a request to avoid a lien that an adversary proceeding is required. Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7001(2). The court is not determining the validity of a claim or avoiding a lien or security interest. The respondent's deed of trust will remain of record until the plan is completed. This is required by 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(5)(B)(I). Once the plan is completed, if the respondent will not reconvey its deed of trust, the court will entertain an adversary proceeding. See also 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(5)(B)(I).

In the meantime, the court is merely valuing the respondent's collateral. Rule 3012 specifies that this is done by motion. Rule 3012 motions can be filed and heard any time during the case. It is particularly appropriate that such motions be heard in connection with the confirmation of a plan. The value of collateral will set the upper bounds of the amount of the secured claim. 11 U.S.C.  $\S$  506(a). Knowing the amount and character of claims is vital to assessing the feasibility of a plan, 11 U.S.C.  $\S$  1325(a)(6), and determining whether the treatment accorded to secured claims complies with 11 U.S.C.  $\S$  1325(a)(5).

To the extent the creditor objects to the debtor's opinion of value, that objection is also overruled, particularly in light of its failure to file any contrary evidence of value. According to the debtor, the residence has a fair market value of \$468,005. Evidence in the form of the debtor's declaration supports the valuation motion. The debtor may testify regarding the value of property owned by the debtor. Fed. R. Evid. 701; So. Central Livestock Dealers, Inc., v. Security State Bank, 614 F.2d 1056, 1061 (5th Cir. 1980).

16. 09-20016-A-13 ALFRED/ANNETTE LUNA GFG-24

MOTION TO MODIFY PLAN 10-18-13 [97]

**Final Ruling:** The motion will be dismissed as moot. The case has been dismissed.

17. 13-30718-A-13 KATHLEEN CARUSO RMD-1 WELLS FARGO BANK, N.A. VS.

MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM AUTOMATIC STAY 10-23-13 [25]

Final Ruling: This motion for relief from the automatic stay has been set for hearing on the notice required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(1). The failure of the debtor and the trustee to file written opposition at least 14 days prior to the hearing as required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(1)(ii) is considered as consent to the granting of the motion. Cf. Ghazali v. Moran, 46 F.3d 52, 53 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1995). Further, because the court will not materially alter the relief requested by the moving party, an actual hearing is unnecessary. See Boone v. Burk (In re Eliapo), 468 F.3d 592 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2006). Therefore, the defaults of the above-mentioned parties in interest are entered and the matter will be resolved without oral argument.

The motion will be granted pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 362(d)(1). The movant or its predecessor completed a nonjudicial foreclosure sale before the bankruptcy case was filed. Under California law, once a nonjudicial foreclosure sale has occurred, the trustor has no right of redemption. Moeller v. Lien, 25 Cal. App.4th 822, 831 (1994). In this case, therefore, the debtor has no right to ignore the foreclosure and to reorganize the debt formerly secured by the property. Because the debtor has no apparent right to reorganize the movant's debt because of the foreclosure, the debtor has no right to continue to possess the property. This is cause to modify the automatic stay to permit the movant to taken possession of the property.

The parties shall bear their own fees and costs.

The 14-day stay of Fed. R. Bankr. P. 4001(a)(3) will be waived.

18. 13-31519-A-13 BENJAMIN/TAMARA MATTOX MOTION TO BB-1 VS. WELLS FARGO BANK 10-24-13 [14]

**Final Ruling:** This valuation motion has been set for hearing on the notice required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(1). The failure of the trustee and the respondent creditor to file written opposition at least 14 days prior to the hearing as required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(1)(ii) is considered as consent to the granting of the motion. Cf. Ghazali v. Moran, 46 F.3d 52, 53 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1995). Further, because the court will not materially alter the relief requested by the moving party, an actual hearing is unnecessary. See Boone v. Burk (In re Eliapo), 468 F.3d 592 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2006). Therefore, the defaults of the trustee and the respondent creditor are entered and the matter will be resolved without oral argument.

The motion will be granted.

The debtor seeks to value the debtor's residence at a fair market value of \$298,000 as of the date the petition was filed. It is encumbered by a first deed of trust held by Bank of America. The first deed of trust secures a loan with a balance of approximately \$312,477 as of the petition date. Therefore, Wells Fargo Bank's claim secured by a junior deed of trust is completely under-collateralized. No portion of this claim will be allowed as a secured claim. See 11 U.S.C. \$506(a).

Any assertion that the respondent's claim cannot be modified because it is secured only by a security interest in real property that is the debtor's principal residence is disposed of by <u>In re Zimmer</u>, 313 F.3d 1220 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2002) and <u>In re Lam</u>, 211 B.R. 36 (B.A.P. 9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1997). <u>See also In re Bartee</u>, 212 F.3d 277 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2000); <u>In re Tanner</u>, 217 F.3d 1357 (11<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2000); <u>McDonald v. Master Fin., Inc. (In re McDonald)</u>, 205 F.3d 606, 611-13 (3<sup>rd</sup> Cir. 2000); and <u>Domestic Bank v. Mann (In re Mann)</u>, 249 B.R. 831, 840 (B.A.P. 1<sup>st</sup> Cir. 2000).

Because the claim is completely under-secured, no interest need be paid on the claim except to the extent otherwise required by 11 U.S.C. \$ 1325(a)(4). If the secured claim is \$0, because the value of the respondent's collateral is \$0, no interest need be paid pursuant to 11 U.S.C. \$ 1325(a)(5)(B)(ii).

Any argument that the plan, by valuing the respondent's security and providing the above treatment, violates  $\underline{\text{In re Hobdy}}$ , 130 B.R. 318 (B.A.P. 9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1991), will be overruled. The plan is not an objection to the respondent's proof of claim pursuant to Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3007 and 11 U.S.C. § 502. The plan makes

provision for the treatment of the claim and all other claims, and a separate valuation motion has been filed and served as permitted by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3012 and 11 U.S.C. § 506(a). The plan was served by the trustee on all creditors, and the motion to value collateral was served by the debtor with a notice that the collateral for the respondent's claim would be valued. That motion is supported by a declaration of the debtor as to the value of the real property. There is nothing about the process for considering the valuation motion which amounts to a denial of due process.

To the extent the respondent objects to valuation of its collateral in a contested matter rather than an adversary proceeding, the objection is overruled. Valuations pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 506(a) and Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3012 are contested matters and do not require the filing of an adversary proceeding. Further, even if considered in the nature of a claim objection, an adversary proceeding is not required. Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3007. It is only when such a motion or objection is joined with a request to determine the extent, validity or priority of a security interest, or a request to avoid a lien that an adversary proceeding is required. Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7001(2). The court is not determining the validity of a claim or avoiding a lien or security interest. The respondent's deed of trust will remain of record until the plan is completed. This is required by 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(5)(B)(I). Once the plan is completed, if the respondent will not reconvey its deed of trust, the court will entertain an adversary proceeding. See also 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(5)(B)(I).

In the meantime, the court is merely valuing the respondent's collateral. Rule 3012 specifies that this is done by motion. Rule 3012 motions can be filed and heard any time during the case. It is particularly appropriate that such motions be heard in connection with the confirmation of a plan. The value of collateral will set the upper bounds of the amount of the secured claim. 11 U.S.C. § 506(a). Knowing the amount and character of claims is vital to assessing the feasibility of a plan, 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(6), and determining whether the treatment accorded to secured claims complies with 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(5).

To the extent the creditor objects to the debtor's opinion of value, that objection is also overruled, particularly in light of its failure to file any contrary evidence of value. According to the debtor, the residence has a fair market value of \$298,000. Evidence in the form of the debtor's declaration supports the valuation motion. The debtor may testify regarding the value of property owned by the debtor. Fed. R. Evid. 701; So. Central Livestock Dealers, Inc., v. Security State Bank, 614 F.2d 1056, 1061 (5th Cir. 1980).

19. 13-32419-A-13 WILLIAM/SANDRA RIDER JPJ-1

OBJECTION TO
CONFIRMATION OF PLAN AND MOTION TO
DISMISS CASE
11-7-13 [20]

**Final Ruling:** The trustee has voluntarily dismissed the objection and the related dismissal motion.

20. 09-33326-A-13 RODIJAH AHMACH CPG-1 ANTHONY VIRGADAMO VS

MOTION FOR RELIEF FROM AUTOMATIC STAY 10-28-13 [66]

**Final Ruling:** This motion for relief from the automatic stay has been set for hearing on the notice required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(1). The failure of the debtor and the trustee to file written opposition at least 14 days prior to the hearing as required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(1)(ii)

is considered as consent to the granting of the motion. <u>Cf. Ghazali v. Moran</u>, 46 F.3d 52, 53 ( $9^{th}$  Cir. 1995). Further, because the court will not materially alter the relief requested by the moving party, an actual hearing is unnecessary. <u>See Boone v. Burk (In re Eliapo)</u>, 468 F.3d 592 ( $9^{th}$  Cir. 2006). Therefore, the defaults of the above-mentioned parties in interest are entered and the matter will be resolved without oral argument.

The motion will be granted pursuant to 11 U.S.C.  $\S$  362(d)(1) to permit the movant to repossess the commercial premises it leased to the debtor, to re-let it pursuant to applicable law, and to apply any deposit made by the debtor to satisfy its claim. No other relief is awarded.

The plan assumes the commercial lease with the movant and provides for direct payment of the lease by the debtor. The debtor, however, has failed to maintain those lease payments. Fourteen monthly payments have not been made by the debtor. This breach of the plan is cause to terminate the automatic stay.

Because the movant has not established that it holds an over-secured claim, the court awards no fees and costs. 11 U.S.C. \$ 506(b).

The 14-day stay of Fed. R. Bankr. P. 4001(a)(3) will be waived.

21. 13-24737-A-13 DANNY RUE DWR-5

MOTION TO CONFIRM PLAN 9-26-13 [74]

**Final Ruling:** The motion will be dismissed as moot. The case has been dismissed.

22. 13-32742-A-13 DAVID/JOSEPHINE SOUZA MOTION TO VALUE COLLATERAL VS. NATIONAL CITY MORTGAGE CO. 10-22-13 [12]

Final Ruling: This valuation motion has been set for hearing on the notice required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(1). The failure of the trustee and the respondent creditor to file written opposition at least 14 days prior to the hearing as required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(1)(ii) is considered as consent to the granting of the motion. Cf. Ghazali v. Moran, 46 F.3d 52, 53 (9th Cir. 1995). Further, because the court will not materially alter the relief requested by the moving party, an actual hearing is unnecessary. See Boone v. Burk (In re Eliapo), 468 F.3d 592 (9th Cir. 2006). Therefore, the defaults of the trustee and the respondent creditor are entered and the matter will be resolved without oral argument.

The motion will be granted.

The debtor seeks to value the debtor's residence at a fair market value of \$175,000 as of the date the petition was filed. It is encumbered by a first deed of trust held by Green Tree Servicing LLC. The first deed of trust secures a loan with a balance of approximately \$311,474.34 as of the petition date. Therefore, National City Mortgage Co's claim secured by a junior deed of trust is completely under-collateralized. No portion of this claim will be allowed as a secured claim. See 11 U.S.C. § 506(a).

Any assertion that the respondent's claim cannot be modified because it is secured only by a security interest in real property that is the debtor's principal residence is disposed of by  $\underline{\text{In re Zimmer}}$ , 313 F.3d 1220 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2002) and  $\underline{\text{In re Lam}}$ , 211 B.R. 36 (B.A.P. 9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1997). See also  $\underline{\text{In re}}$ 

<u>Bartee</u>, 212 F.3d 277 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2000); <u>In re Tanner</u>, 217 F.3d 1357 (11<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2000); <u>McDonald v. Master Fin., Inc. (In re McDonald)</u>, 205 F.3d 606, 611-13 (3<sup>rd</sup> Cir. 2000); and <u>Domestic Bank v. Mann (In re Mann)</u>, 249 B.R. 831, 840 (B.A.P. 1<sup>st</sup> Cir. 2000).

Because the claim is completely under-secured, no interest need be paid on the claim except to the extent otherwise required by 11 U.S.C. \$ 1325(a)(4). If the secured claim is \$0, because the value of the respondent's collateral is \$0, no interest need be paid pursuant to 11 U.S.C. \$ 1325(a)(5)(B)(ii).

Any argument that the plan, by valuing the respondent's security and providing the above treatment, violates <u>In re Hobdy</u>, 130 B.R. 318 (B.A.P. 9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1991), will be overruled. The plan is not an objection to the respondent's proof of claim pursuant to Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3007 and 11 U.S.C. § 502. The plan makes provision for the treatment of the claim and all other claims, and a separate valuation motion has been filed and served as permitted by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3012 and 11 U.S.C. § 506(a). The plan was served by the trustee on all creditors, and the motion to value collateral was served by the debtor with a notice that the collateral for the respondent's claim would be valued. That motion is supported by a declaration of the debtor as to the value of the real property. There is nothing about the process for considering the valuation motion which amounts to a denial of due process.

To the extent the respondent objects to valuation of its collateral in a contested matter rather than an adversary proceeding, the objection is overruled. Valuations pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 506(a) and Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3012 are contested matters and do not require the filing of an adversary proceeding. Further, even if considered in the nature of a claim objection, an adversary proceeding is not required. Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3007. It is only when such a motion or objection is joined with a request to determine the extent, validity or priority of a security interest, or a request to avoid a lien that an adversary proceeding is required. Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7001(2). The court is not determining the validity of a claim or avoiding a lien or security interest. The respondent's deed of trust will remain of record until the plan is completed. This is required by 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(5)(B)(I). Once the plan is completed, if the respondent will not reconvey its deed of trust, the court will entertain an adversary proceeding. See also 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(5)(B)(I).

In the meantime, the court is merely valuing the respondent's collateral. Rule 3012 specifies that this is done by motion. Rule 3012 motions can be filed and heard any time during the case. It is particularly appropriate that such motions be heard in connection with the confirmation of a plan. The value of collateral will set the upper bounds of the amount of the secured claim. 11 U.S.C. § 506(a). Knowing the amount and character of claims is vital to assessing the feasibility of a plan, 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(6), and determining whether the treatment accorded to secured claims complies with 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(5).

To the extent the creditor objects to the debtor's opinion of value, that objection is also overruled, particularly in light of its failure to file any contrary evidence of value. According to the debtor, the residence has a fair market value of \$175,000. Evidence in the form of the debtor's declaration supports the valuation motion. The debtor may testify regarding the value of property owned by the debtor. Fed. R. Evid. 701; So. Central Livestock Dealers, Inc., v. Security State Bank, 614 F.2d 1056, 1061 (5th Cir. 1980).

23. 12-25445-A-13 ANTONIA HERNANDEZ PD-1

MOTION TO
APPROVE LOAN MODIFICATION
10-25-13 [59]

Final Ruling: The court finds that a hearing will not be helpful to its consideration and resolution of this matter. Accordingly, it is removed from calendar for resolution without oral argument.

The motion will be dismissed without prejudice.

While the court would typically grant a motion such as this, the debtor's response requests the dismissal of the case. Because the case has not previously been converted from another chapter, the court must dismiss the case at the debtor's request. See 11 U.S.C. § 1307(b). Counsel for the debtor shall lodge an order dismissing the case and the court will enter its minute order dismissing this motion.

24. 10-40650-A-13 JUNE DANCEL PGM-6

MOTION TO
APPROVE COMPENSATION OF DEBTOR'S
ATTORNEY (FEES \$1,090)
10-21-13 [86]

Final Ruling: This compensation motion has been set for hearing on the notice required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(1) and Fed. R. Bankr. R. 2002(a)(6). The failure of the trustee, the debtor, the United States Trustee, the creditors, and any other party in interest to file written opposition at least 14 days prior to the hearing as required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(1)(ii) is considered as consent to the granting of the motion. Cf. Ghazali v. Moran, 46 F.3d 52, 53 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1995). Further, because the court will not materially alter the relief requested by the moving party, an actual hearing is unnecessary. See Boone v. Burk (In re Eliapo), 468 F.3d 592 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2006). Therefore, the defaults of the above-mentioned parties in interest are entered and the matter will be resolved without oral argument.

The motion will be granted. The motion seeks approval of \$1,090 in additional fees incurred primarily in obtaining confirmation of a modified plan. The foregoing represents reasonable compensation for actual, necessary, and beneficial services rendered to the debtor. Any retainer may be drawn upon and the balance of the approved compensation is to be paid through the plan in a manner consistent with the plan and Local Bankruptcy Rule 2016-1, if applicable.

25. 13-31861-A-13 ANTONIO AGUIRRE AND ANA MOTION TO PGM-1 ADAME- AGUIRRE VALUE COLLATERAL VS. COMMUNITY BANKS OF NORTHERN CA 10-23-13 [14]

Final Ruling: This valuation motion has been set for hearing on the notice required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(1). The failure of the trustee and the respondent creditor to file written opposition at least 14 days prior to the hearing as required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(1)(ii) is considered as consent to the granting of the motion. Cf. Ghazali v. Moran, 46 F.3d 52, 53 (9th Cir. 1995). Further, because the court will not materially alter the relief requested by the moving party, an actual hearing is unnecessary. See Boone v. Burk (In re Eliapo), 468 F.3d 592 (9th Cir. 2006). Therefore, the defaults of the trustee and the respondent creditor are entered and the matter will be resolved without oral argument.

The motion will be granted.

The debtor seeks to value the debtor's residence at a fair market value of \$85,000 as of the date the petition was filed. It is encumbered by a first deed of trust held by BAC home Loan Servicing LP. The first deed of trust secures a loan with a balance of approximately \$74,267.39 as of the petition date. Therefore, Community Banks of Northern CA's claim secured by a junior deed of trust is completely under-collateralized. No portion of this claim will be allowed as a secured claim. See 11 U.S.C. § 506(a).

Any assertion that the respondent's claim cannot be modified because it is secured only by a security interest in real property that is the debtor's principal residence is disposed of by <u>In re Zimmer</u>, 313 F.3d 1220 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2002) and <u>In re Lam</u>, 211 B.R. 36 (B.A.P. 9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1997). <u>See also In re Bartee</u>, 212 F.3d 277 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2000); <u>In re Tanner</u>, 217 F.3d 1357 (11<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2000); <u>McDonald v. Master Fin., Inc. (In re McDonald)</u>, 205 F.3d 606, 611-13 (3<sup>rd</sup> Cir. 2000); and <u>Domestic Bank v. Mann (In re Mann)</u>, 249 B.R. 831, 840 (B.A.P. 1<sup>st</sup> Cir. 2000).

Because the claim is completely under-secured, no interest need be paid on the claim except to the extent otherwise required by 11 U.S.C. \$ 1325(a)(4). If the secured claim is \$0, because the value of the respondent's collateral is \$0, no interest need be paid pursuant to 11 U.S.C. \$ 1325(a)(5)(B)(ii).

Any argument that the plan, by valuing the respondent's security and providing the above treatment, violates <u>In re Hobdy</u>, 130 B.R. 318 (B.A.P. 9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1991), will be overruled. The plan is not an objection to the respondent's proof of claim pursuant to Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3007 and 11 U.S.C. § 502. The plan makes provision for the treatment of the claim and all other claims, and a separate valuation motion has been filed and served as permitted by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3012 and 11 U.S.C. § 506(a). The plan was served by the trustee on all creditors, and the motion to value collateral was served by the debtor with a notice that the collateral for the respondent's claim would be valued. That motion is supported by a declaration of the debtor as to the value of the real property. There is nothing about the process for considering the valuation motion which amounts to a denial of due process.

To the extent the respondent objects to valuation of its collateral in a contested matter rather than an adversary proceeding, the objection is overruled. Valuations pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 506(a) and Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3012 are contested matters and do not require the filing of an adversary proceeding. Further, even if considered in the nature of a claim objection, an adversary proceeding is not required. Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3007. It is only when such a motion or objection is joined with a request to determine the extent, validity or priority of a security interest, or a request to avoid a lien that an adversary proceeding is required. Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7001(2). The court is not determining the validity of a claim or avoiding a lien or security interest. The respondent's deed of trust will remain of record until the plan is completed. This is required by 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a) (5) (B) (I). Once the plan is completed, if the respondent will not reconvey its deed of trust, the court will entertain an adversary proceeding. See also 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a) (5) (B) (I).

In the meantime, the court is merely valuing the respondent's collateral. Rule 3012 specifies that this is done by motion. Rule 3012 motions can be filed and heard any time during the case. It is particularly appropriate that such motions be heard in connection with the confirmation of a plan. The value of collateral will set the upper bounds of the amount of the secured claim. 11 U.S.C. § 506(a). Knowing the amount and character of claims is vital to assessing the feasibility of a plan, 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(6), and determining whether the treatment accorded to secured claims complies with 11 U.S.C. §

1325(a)(5).

To the extent the creditor objects to the debtor's opinion of value, that objection is also overruled, particularly in light of its failure to file any contrary evidence of value. According to the debtor, the residence has a fair market value of \$85,000. Evidence in the form of the debtor's declaration supports the valuation motion. The debtor may testify regarding the value of property owned by the debtor. Fed. R. Evid. 701; So. Central Livestock Dealers, Inc., v. Security State Bank, 614 F.2d 1056, 1061 (5th Cir. 1980).

26. 13-31963-A-13 KHARL/JENNEL TABASA MOTION TO VALUE COLLATERAL VS. GREENPOINT MORTGAGE FUNDING, INC. 10-24-13 [21]

Final Ruling: This valuation motion has been set for hearing on the notice required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(1). The failure of the trustee and the respondent creditor to file written opposition at least 14 days prior to the hearing as required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(1)(ii) is considered as consent to the granting of the motion. Cf. Ghazali v. Moran, 46 F.3d 52, 53 (9th Cir. 1995). Further, because the court will not materially alter the relief requested by the moving party, an actual hearing is unnecessary. See Boone v. Burk (In re Eliapo), 468 F.3d 592 (9th Cir. 2006). Therefore, the defaults of the trustee and the respondent creditor are entered and the matter will be resolved without oral argument.

The motion will be granted.

The debtor seeks to value the debtor's residence at a fair market value of \$423,000 as of the date the petition was filed. It is encumbered by a first deed of trust held by Nationstar Mortgage LLC. The first deed of trust secures a loan with a balance of approximately \$560,874.84 as of the petition date. Therefore, Greenpoint Mortgage Funding, Inc's claim secured by a junior deed of trust is completely under-collateralized. No portion of this claim will be allowed as a secured claim. See 11 U.S.C. \$506(a).

Any assertion that the respondent's claim cannot be modified because it is secured only by a security interest in real property that is the debtor's principal residence is disposed of by <u>In re Zimmer</u>, 313 F.3d 1220 (9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2002) and <u>In re Lam</u>, 211 B.R. 36 (B.A.P. 9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1997). <u>See also In re Bartee</u>, 212 F.3d 277 (5<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2000); <u>In re Tanner</u>, 217 F.3d 1357 (11<sup>th</sup> Cir. 2000); <u>McDonald v. Master Fin., Inc. (In re McDonald)</u>, 205 F.3d 606, 611-13 (3<sup>rd</sup> Cir. 2000); and <u>Domestic Bank v. Mann (In re Mann)</u>, 249 B.R. 831, 840 (B.A.P. 1<sup>st</sup> Cir. 2000).

Because the claim is completely under-secured, no interest need be paid on the claim except to the extent otherwise required by 11 U.S.C.  $\S$  1325(a)(4). If the secured claim is  $\S$ 0, because the value of the respondent's collateral is  $\S$ 0, no interest need be paid pursuant to 11 U.S.C.  $\S$  1325(a)(5)(B)(ii).

Any argument that the plan, by valuing the respondent's security and providing the above treatment, violates  $\underline{\text{In re Hobdy}}$ , 130 B.R. 318 (B.A.P. 9<sup>th</sup> Cir. 1991), will be overruled. The plan is not an objection to the respondent's proof of claim pursuant to Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3007 and 11 U.S.C. § 502. The plan makes provision for the treatment of the claim and all other claims, and a separate valuation motion has been filed and served as permitted by Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3012 and 11 U.S.C. § 506(a). The plan was served by the trustee on all creditors, and the motion to value collateral was served by the debtor with a notice that the collateral for the respondent's claim would be valued. That

motion is supported by a declaration of the debtor as to the value of the real property. There is nothing about the process for considering the valuation motion which amounts to a denial of due process.

To the extent the respondent objects to valuation of its collateral in a contested matter rather than an adversary proceeding, the objection is overruled. Valuations pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 506(a) and Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3012 are contested matters and do not require the filing of an adversary proceeding. Further, even if considered in the nature of a claim objection, an adversary proceeding is not required. Fed. R. Bankr. P. 3007. It is only when such a motion or objection is joined with a request to determine the extent, validity or priority of a security interest, or a request to avoid a lien that an adversary proceeding is required. Fed. R. Bankr. P. 7001(2). The court is not determining the validity of a claim or avoiding a lien or security interest. The respondent's deed of trust will remain of record until the plan is completed. This is required by 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(5)(B)(I). Once the plan is completed, if the respondent will not reconvey its deed of trust, the court will entertain an adversary proceeding. See also 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(5)(B)(I).

In the meantime, the court is merely valuing the respondent's collateral. Rule 3012 specifies that this is done by motion. Rule 3012 motions can be filed and heard any time during the case. It is particularly appropriate that such motions be heard in connection with the confirmation of a plan. The value of collateral will set the upper bounds of the amount of the secured claim. 11 U.S.C.  $\S$  506(a). Knowing the amount and character of claims is vital to assessing the feasibility of a plan, 11 U.S.C.  $\S$  1325(a)(6), and determining whether the treatment accorded to secured claims complies with 11 U.S.C.  $\S$  1325(a)(5).

To the extent the creditor objects to the debtor's opinion of value, that objection is also overruled, particularly in light of its failure to file any contrary evidence of value. According to the debtor, the residence has a fair market value of \$423,000. Evidence in the form of the debtor's declaration supports the valuation motion. The debtor may testify regarding the value of property owned by the debtor. Fed. R. Evid. 701; So. Central Livestock Dealers, Inc., v. Security State Bank, 614 F.2d 1056, 1061 (5th Cir. 1980).

27. 10-39382-A-13 GRACE KAU CAH-3

MOTION TO REFINANCE 10-25-13 [51]

Final Ruling: This motion to refinance or to modify a home loan has been set for hearing on the notice required by Local Bankruptcy Rules 3015-1(b) and 9014-1(f)(1), and Fed. R. Bankr. R. 2002(b). The failure of the trustee, the U.S. Trustee, creditors, and any other party in interest to file written opposition at least 14 days prior to the hearing as required by Local Bankruptcy Rule 9014-1(f)(1)(ii) is considered as consent to the granting of the motion. Cf. Ghazali v. Moran, 46 F.3d 52, 53 (9th Cir. 1995). Further, because the court will not materially alter the relief requested by the debtor, an actual hearing is unnecessary. See Boone v. Burk (In re Eliapo), 468 F.3d 592 (9th Cir. 2006). Therefore, the respondents' defaults are entered and the matter will be resolved without oral argument.

The motion will be granted. The debtor is authorized but not required to enter into the proposed modification/refinance. To the extent it is inconsistent with the confirmed plan, the debtor shall continue to perform the plan as confirmed until it is modified.

28. 13-29489-A-13 GRIGOR KESOYAN PGM-3

MOTION TO CONFIRM PLAN 10-11-13 [45]

Final Ruling: The motion will be dismissed without prejudice.

The certificate of service for the motion to confirm the plan does not contain a list of those served with the motion and the modified plan. Hence, there is no proof that the debtor has complied with the notice requirements of Fed. R. Bankr. P. 2002(b).

29. 09-48292-A-13 MICHAEL/RUBY SANDOVAL CAH-3

MOTION TO MODIFY PLAN 10-9-13 [38]

Final Ruling: The motion will be dismissed without prejudice.

Local Bankruptcy Rule 2002-1(c) provides that notices in adversary proceedings and contested matters that are served on the IRS shall be mailed to three entities at three different addresses: (1) IRS, P.O. Box 7346, Philadelphia, PA 19101-7346; (2) United States Attorney, for the IRS, 501 I Street, Suite 10-100, Sacramento, CA 95814; and (3) United States Department of Justice, Civil Trial Section, Western Region, Box 683, Franklin Station, Washington, D.C. 20044.

Service in this case is deficient because the IRS was not served at the second and the third addresses listed above.

30. 13-32598-A-13 CARMEN CATALAN JPJ-1

OBJECTION TO
CONFIRMATION OF PLAN AND MOTION TO
DISMISS CASE
11-7-13 [24]

Final Ruling: Because the debtor's response to the objection concedes its merit, no hearing is required to resolve the objection and related counter motion.

The objection will be sustained and the motion to dismiss the case will be conditionally denied.

First, the plan's feasibility depends on the debtor successfully prosecuting a motion to value the collateral of Bank of America in order to strip down or strip off its secured claim from its collateral. No such motion has been filed, served, and granted. Absent a successful motion the debtor cannot establish that the plan will pay secured claims in full as required by 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(5)(B) or that the plan is feasible as required by 11 U.S.C. § 1325(a)(6). Local Bankruptcy Rule 3015-1(j) provides: "If a proposed plan will reduce or eliminate a secured claim based on the value of its collateral or the avoidability of a lien pursuant to 11 U.S.C. § 522(f), the debtor must file, serve, and set for hearing a valuation motion and/or a lien avoidance motion. The hearing must be concluded before or in conjunction with the confirmation of the plan. If a motion is not filed, or it is unsuccessful, the Court may deny confirmation of the plan."

Second, the debtor has understated the debtor's current monthly income. When reported at its correct level, the debtor is an over-median income debtor. the plan proposes a duration of 36 months. However, because the debtor is an over-median income debtor, the duration must be 60 months even though the debtor has

no projected disposable income reported on Form 22. See Danielson v. Flores (In re Flores), 2013 WL 4566428 (Aug. 29, 2013). The plan does not comply with 11 U.S.C.  $\S$  1325(b)(4).

Because the plan proposed by the debtor is not confirmable, the debtor will be given a further opportunity to confirm a plan. But, if the debtor is unable to confirm a plan within a reasonable period of time, the court concludes that the prejudice to creditors will be prejudicial and that there will then be cause for dismissal. If the debtor has not confirmed a plan within 75 days, the case will be dismissed on the trustee's ex parte application.